

VZCZCXR00491  
RR RUEHCHI RUEHCN RUEHHM  
DE RUEHJA #0407 0600224  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 290224Z FEB 08  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8135  
INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1579  
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 8348  
RUEHPF/AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH 0509  
RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA 3191  
RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI 0590  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 1613  
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2069  
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 2368  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 0139  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC  
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS JAKARTA 000407

SIPDIS

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DEPT FOR EAP, EAP/RSP, EAP/MTS, EAP/MLS, EAP/EP  
DEPT FOR EB/IFD/OMA  
DEPT ALSO FOR OES/IET AND OES/ETC/TED  
USAID FOR LCHILES  
BANGKOK FOR USAID/CARDUNER/KISSINGER/PARISH  
CAMBODIA FOR USAID  
MANILA FOR USAID  
HANOI FOR USAID  
TREASURY FOR IA-SETH SEARLS  
COMMERCE FOR 4430/KELLY  
SINGAPORE FOR BAKER

E.O. 12598: N/A

TAGS: [ECON](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#) [ID](#) [BM](#)  
SUBJECT: US-ASEAN SUPPORT PROGRAM LAUNCHED

**11.** (SBU) ASEAN has been waiting with anticipation for a renewed commitment from the U.S., Secretary General (SG) Surin Pitsuwan stated in a February 25 courtesy call by DAS Marciel and representatives of the USAID Asia Regional Mission. The team met with the SG to present and formally launch ADVANCE (ASEAN Development Vision to Advance National Cooperation and Economic Integration), a State/USAID funded, multi-sector development program to support ASEAN economic integration through 2015, the date set for achieving an ASEAN Community. The courtesy call covered areas for future potential collaboration between the U.S. and ASEAN. A joint press conference with local and regional media followed the meeting.

ASEAN WELCOMES "RENEWED" U.S. COMMITMENT

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**12.** (SBU) Dr. Surin welcomed the USG's increased engagement with ASEAN through ADVANCE. He shared that the ASEAN member states' leaders and foreign ministers are upbeat about the direction the organization is taking, and that dialogue partner support is now more important than ever. The member countries' leaders have instructed him to assume that the ASEAN Charter is already ratified and to proceed at "full speed" on economic integration.

**13.** (SBU) The meeting participants brainstormed on ways that USG support could best align with ASEAN's strategic goals, including: 1) weaving USG bilateral and regional initiatives together to maximize effectiveness; 2) maintaining open communication on what initiatives work and where gaps remain; and 3) encouraging the involvement of the private sector in relevant areas such as economic policy and

performance scorecarding.

"ADVANCE" LAUNCHED IN PRESS CONFERENCE

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¶4. (U) Following the courtesy call, DAS Marciel, Dr. Surin, and USAID Asia's Mission Director, Olivier Carduner, participated in a press conference to formally announce the launch of ADVANCE and highlight the ongoing U.S. commitment to ASEAN. Questions covered ADVANCE, the ASEAN Charter ratification process, and the U.S. position on Burma. News outlets in Indonesia, ASEAN member countries and China carried the story.

¶5. (U) DAS Marciel has cleared this telegram.

HUME